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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/748,043	12/31/2003	John Kenny	10031002-1	6826

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AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
Legal Department, DL429
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 7599
Loveland, CO 80537-0599

EXAMINER

RILEY, SHAWN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2838

DATE MAILED: 08/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/748,043	Applicant(s) KENNY ET AL.	
	Examiner Shawn Riley	Art Unit 2838	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 11-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to applicants arguments

The portion of Gee et al. referenced by the Examiner, i.e., col. 8, lines 36-48, mentions the words "slew rate" however, as disclosed at col. 8, lines 41-48, "Variable VQI is updated by adding to its previous value a constant VQID which is the VQI slew rate. Once variable VQI is updated, time per step TS is set equal to a function of VQ and VQI from a look-up table to obtain the frequency from the voltage." That is, a constant value of slew rate VQID is used along with a measured value of a DC voltage to determine a frequency of the motor; however the slew rate of a DC voltage is not controlled.

This argument is not well taken. Applicant's own specification discusses a very similar procedure (e.g., summary of invention) to that as described in the instant prior art and what is claimed.

Applicant's disclose:

The slew control system uses a lookup table of voltage offsets that are added to the present value of the DAC to cause the DAC to change to a new value. The lookup table has an input pointer that is made of both the present value of the DAC and the final value of the DAC. This pointer indexes into the lookup table of offsets and an indicated offset is fed to an accumulator, which then computes a next value by combining the offset with the present value of the DAC.

The prior art is seen as anticipating the claimed subject matter of claim 1. For at least the above reasons, this action is made final.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being fully anticipated by Gee et al. (U.S. Patent 4,743,815). Gee et al shows,¹ (in, e.g., the(ir) figures and corresponding disclosure)

As to claim 1;

A power supply, comprising: a power converter which converts input power (AC LINE INPUT) to a DC power (Vdc); an output circuit (including 25/23/21) which controls the DC power applied to a load in response to a drive voltage; a digitally implemented slew rate controller which regulates a slew rate (using variable VQ1) of a voltage of the DC power by changing a present value of the drive voltage supplied to the output circuit by incremental values at predetermined intervals to arrive at a final value of the drive voltage so that a maximum output current rating and a maximum output power rating of

¹ Note claims will be addressed individually and the material in parentheses are the examiner's annotated comments. Further unless needed for clarity reasons, recited limitation(s), will be annotated only upon their first occurrence. Annotated claims begin with the phrase "As to claim". Claims that are not annotated are seen as having already had the invention(s) addressed previously in an annotated claim. Bolded words/phrases indicate rejected material based 112 paragraph rejections. Underlined words/phrases indicate objected to material.

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the output circuit are not exceeded at any value of the drive voltage while slewing the voltage of the DC power from the present value to the final value (see column 8 liners 36-48).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 2-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
4. Claims 11-20 are allowable over the prior art of record.
5. As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's response must either comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(b) and section 707.07(a) of the M.P.E.P.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: No prior art uncovered anticipates or renders obvious applicant(s) claimed slew rate controller including an input latch which latches the final value of the drive voltage input from an external source; a first magnitude comparator which compares the final value with the present value to determine the change direction of the drive voltage, an accumulator which sums the present value and one of the stored incremental values selected from the look-up table based on the present value, the final value and the direction of change of the drive voltage and outputs a next value of the drive voltage; and an output latch which latches the next value as a new present value.

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Further, no prior art uncovered anticipates or renders obvious applicant(s) claimed slew rate controller including inputting a final value to which the output voltage is to be changed, comparing the final value with the present value of the output voltage, selecting one of the incremental values based on the present value, the final value and the direction of change of the output voltage, summing the selected incremental value and the present value to obtain a next value latching the next value as a new present value; stopping the incrementing of the output voltage based on comparing the next value with the final value and the comparing of the final value with the present value.

Conclusion

1. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry from other than the applicant/attorney of record concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to the Patent Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 1.866.217.9197. Any inquiry from a member of the press concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner or the application should be directed to the Office of Public Affairs at 703.305.8341. Any inquiry from the applicant or an attorney of record concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Examiner Riley whose telephone number is

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571.272.2083. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 7:30-6:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. The Examiner's Supervisor is Mike Sherry who can be reached at 571.272.2084. Any inquiry about a case's location, retrieval of a case, or receipt of an amendment into a case or information regarding sent correspondence to a case **should be directed to 2800's Customer Service Center** at 571.272.2815. Any papers to be sent by fax MUST BE sent to fax number 703.872.9306. Any inquiry of a general nature of this application should be **directed to the Group receptionist** whose telephone number is 571.272.2800. Status information of cases may be found at <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov> wherein unpublished application information is found through private PAIR and published application information is found through public PAIR. Further help on using the PAIR system is available at 1.866.217.9197 (Electronic Business Center).

July 05



Shawn Riley
Primary Examiner